Toronto metro

WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 24-26, 2017

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THOSE NEW PLANETS

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metroSCIENCE

Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 24-26, 2017 | High 8°C/Low 5°C Drizzerable

'DIRTY,' 'CESSPOOL,' 'THE GREAT UNWASHED'

What Metrolinx staff *really* says about the TTC behind closed doors

metroNEWS

Plus Three burning questions about transit answered **metroNEWS**

Children detained in Toronto

HUMAN RIGHTS

241 Canadian-born kids held by immigration from 2011-2015

Canada has placed more than 200 Canadian children in immigration detention with their non-status parents since 2011, alongside hundreds of formally detained non-Canadian children, says University of Toronto study.

Based on data obtained from the Canada Border Services Agency, the U of T Human Rights Program found at least 241 Canadian-born children — an average of 48 a year — were held in the immigration holding centre in Toronto between 2011 and 2015. The data do not cover detention facilities in other parts of Canada.

On average, they spent 36 days at the detention centre with their incarcerated parents, with one boy spending 803 days — over two years — in the detention facility.

Two-thirds of the detained children were housed there for longer than a week and about 31 per cent were held for longer than a month. Eighty-five per cent of the children were under age 6.

"Children who experience even brief periods of detention have extremely negative psychological reactions that often persist long after they are released," warned the 63-page study, Invisible Citizens: Canadian Children in Immigration Detention, released Thursday. "Children who are spared detention but are separated from their detained parents experience similarly grave consequences for their mental health."

Interviews by researchers with nine detained and formerly detained mothers of Canadian children from the Middle East, West Africa, Central America and the Caribbean found the children had difficulty sleeping, lost their appetite, lost their interest in play, and developed symptoms of depression and separation anxiety, as well as a variety of physical symptoms.

"Many of these symptoms persisted after release from detention," the study warned.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Livestream of giraffe birth at New York zoo pulled from YouTube for being 'explicit' VIDEO ON THE METRO APP

Vacant 'treasure chest' on the market

REAL ESTATE

Landmark building is a 'rare opportunity'

David Hains
Metro | Toronto

A landmark Yonge Street heritage building is up for sale, and the bidding starts at one dollar.

The four-storey Bank of Toronto building at 205 Yonge is a vacant fixer-upper, but the real estate broker representing the seller says the building is a rare opportunity.

"It's a treasure chest. It's like the sunken Titanic," said Shawn Abramovitz.

He added that while the site hasn't received any formal offers since bidding opened on Monday, he expects them to come in closer to the March 23 deadline.

Abramovitz explained that one-of-a-kind buildings like 205 Yonge frequently start the bidding at $1 to encourage a wide variety of bids for sites that are difficult to value.

The building was last purchased for $3.65 million in 2007.

"We've had interest from (real estate trusts), foreign investors, all sorts of types of investors," Abramovitz said.

The building of the former Bank of Toronto at 205 Yonge St. is on the market for a loonie.
EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

Among the specific uses he highlighted was a potential high-end steakhouse or retail space, and he mentioned that one Chinese investor inquired about turning it into a home.

The building first opened in 1905 as a Bank of Toronto branch. Designed by E.J. Lennox, the influential Toronto architect who also built Casa Loma and Old City Hall, the neo-classical building features a domed roof, Corinthian columns and Indiana limestone.

While 205 Yonge is a unique building, it has also been vacant for 15 years.

Kaitlin Wainwright, the director of programming for the arms-length city agency Heritage Toronto, is hopeful that a potential sale means new uses for a landmark building.

She said that given the architecture and location, a good use would be something that's "economically viable but also engages our imaginations," citing the Gladstone and New Broadview Hotel sites as examples.

Wainwright added that incorporating some kind of museum element would be another good option.

MEDIA

Metro still Canada's top weekday paper

Metro has solidified its position as one of the most sought-after newspapers in Toronto as the national brand continues to be the most-read weekday paper in Canada, according to new data released Thursday.

Vividata, the media industry's single-source, print and digital audience measurement released its survey results for the third quarter of 2016 on Thursday, based on surveys completed between October 2015 and September 2016.

The results show Metro Toronto has 645,000 daily print readers — widening the gap between it and 24 Hours, which saw readership decline to 507,000, or by 11 per cent.

Metro remains the second-most read paper in the GTA, trailing the Toronto Star.

Nationally, Metro's daily readership across seven English markets was steady at 1.68 million. METRO

ACTIVISM!

HOW TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD THIS WEEKEND

Belly of the Beast
The Mining Injustice Solidarity Network (MISN) leads a panel discussion that examines the reach of Toronto's financial sector into the domestic and global mining industry. — Friday, 7 p.m., Friends House, 60 Lowther Ave.

Trudeau: We're Watching You
Canadian Journalists for Free Expression are calling on the Government of Canada to end mass surveillance, repeal provisions enacted by the Anti-Terrorism Act and #ProtestPressFreedom. — Saturday, 2 p.m., Trinity Bellwoods Park.

SURJ First Open Meeting
Showing Up For Racial Justice Toronto is an organization committed to educating and mobilizing white people as part of a multiracial majority for racial justice and supporting Indigenous sovereignty. — Sunday, 2:30 p.m., Trinity St. Paul's United Church.

Politicizing Our Struggles
Three films recount the history of black sleeping car porters, the legacy of racism and sexism facing black women in politics, and the stories of anti-racist activists throughout history. Discussions to follow. — Monday, 6 p.m., United Steelworkers Hall.

ALI VANDERKRUYK/METRO

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REAL ESTATE

Cost of new homes passes $1 million

The cost of a newly constructed home was up 25 per cent in January over the same month last year and has now surpassed the psychologically significant $1-million mark.

The most coveted new builds, detached houses, averaged $1.3 million in January — nearly three times the cost of a decade ago — as the supply of those houses dwindled to a record 534 from 12,242 just 10 years ago, according to the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD).

BILD blames a historically low supply of new homes on the market — 13,053 for sale last month compared to 31,461 a decade ago — for the soaring prices.

Builders will construct as many new homes as they are allowed this year, said BILD CEO Bryan Tuckey on Thursday. But the influx of about 100,000 people a year to the region means that those homes "will be sold in days, if not hours," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CRIME

Police bust drug ring

Ontario Provincial Police say 18 people have been charged in a cross-border investigation into illegal guns and drugs, including the deadly opioid fentanyl.

The investigation began by targeting criminal groups trafficking firearms and drugs along the Highway 401 corridor in the GTA through to Montreal, and revealed drug trafficking to the U.S. as well, said OPP Deputy Commissioner Rick Barnum.

Over the course of the 18-month investigation — Project Silkstone — officers seized 11,500 pills containing fentanyl.

"By dismantling a criminal operation of this magnitude, we've literally prevented more than 11-thousand 'doses of death' of fentanyl and illegal guns from killing people," said Barnum.

The probe also netted a Service Ontario employee, police said, who was allegedly helping a Toronto man forge documents.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Changes afoot for Bloor's bike lanes

TRANSPORTATION

City reviews pilot project after car travel times increase

More data will be collected about Bloor. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

The city plans to make alterations to the pilot project of separated bike lanes on Bloor Street West, after preliminary data showed that while they have increased cycling rates they have also led to significantly longer travel times for drivers.

Data on the one-year pilot project was collected last September and October, just weeks after the bike lanes were installed, and transportation staff stress that the numbers are interim and shouldn't be used to judge the success of the bike lanes. The figures were released to Torstar News Service after it filed a freedom of information request.

They show that while the number of cyclists using the lanes increased by 36 per cent, from 3,300 a day before the lanes went in to 4,500 a day afterwards, car travel times during the afternoon peak period increased by 8 minutes and 25 seconds. In the morning peak period they increased by just over 4 minutes.

Daily car traffic volumes on Bloor St. also fell by about 22 per cent, which combined with the greater number of cyclists pushed the mode share of bicycles on the street from 12 per cent to 18 per cent.

Barbara Gray, the city's general manager of transportation, is aware that critics of the project will see the increased driving times as proof that the bike lane isn't working. But she said that by changing the timing of traffic signals, implementing turning and parking restrictions, and tweaking the bike lane design at trouble intersections, she fully expects to reduce the negative impact on car traffic.

Councillor Joe Cressy, who represents one of two wards that the bike lanes pass through, has been a vocal proponent of the cycling project. He said that the "early data shows that there has been a very positive response but of course it's a work in progress."

City staff will collect a second round of data in May and June, after the modifications have taken place. Gray said that information collected then will provide a more accurate picture of how the lanes are working.

A report on the pilot project is expected to go before the public works committee in October. It's expected to include recommendations to council on whether to keep, modify, or remove the lanes. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Modesty's big moment

Designer Hana Tajima's line fills a void in market

Nichole Jankowski
For Metro | Toronto
RETAIL INSIDER

Hana Tajima's line of modest wear landed in stores Friday.
COURTESY UNIQLO

Modest wear is having a moment.

Two weeks ago, Halima Aden became the first hijabi signed to major modeling agency IMG and she's already making waves on the runway.

Almost every look at Céline is quite literally ready-to-wear for a Muslim, Orthodox Jewish or conservative Catholic woman with the addition of a headscarf or wig.

Hemlines are long, skirts are A-line, trousers are loose with wide legs, shirting extends below jackets to nearly the knees and high necklines are high fashion.

Just don't call it a trend. For women who choose to wear modest fashion that decision doesn't change with the seasons. What's available in-store, however, does; and customers looking for conservative pieces know that.

"It probably will get harder," says Sarah Ahmed, 21, a student at University of Toronto Scarborough Campus. Ahmed started wearing a hijab the summer before eleventh grade.

One day she woke up and decided it was for her. "No going back," she determined, "That's not to say there weren't a lot of struggles going forward."

Fashion moves in cycles and Ahmed acknowledges that at any time the pendulum could swing back to short skirts and sheer panels, "what it used to be like."

And what it used to be like is disheartening, with Ahmed often going up two sizes to get a loose — albeit awkward — fit.

For now, at least in Toronto, finding something to wear will be a little easier. Friday Feb. 24 marks the Canadian launch of Uniqlo's line of modest wear, a collaboration with U.K.-Japanese designer Hana Tajima.

The line includes hijabs as well as dresses and trousers that Vogue said would be equally at home in the section for French designer Christophe Lemaire's Uniqlo line. In its fourth season, distribution for the collection has expanded from four countries to 15.

The success of Tajima's line speaks to a void in the market, one that other brands have been slow to capitalize on.

"If you want to be open minded as a brand, you will always find something to make it work," says Evelien Joos, who cast Aden for Yeezy Season 5, and the cover of CR magazine. "It's maybe not easy for some brands but it's not impossible."

RETAIL

Honest Ed's saying very long goodbye

Sarah-Joyce Battersby
Metro | Toronto

The final days of Honest Ed's are still going, going before the famed bargain basement is truly gone.

A four-day long goodbye bash takes over the shuttered store this weekend, promising to be a smorgasbord of sentimentality and a final sendoff.

Organizers Toronto For Everyone, an offshoot of nonprofit Centre for Social Innovation, kicked off the festivities Thursday with a $260/ticket cocktail gala. (A portion of the partially tax-refundable ticket price goes to supporting the weekend's festivities.)

The temple to thrift officially closed its Bathurst and Bloor doors at the end of December, but the city has had a hard time letting go.

Toronto DIGEST

Islamophobia denounced
MPPs from all three parties unanimously supported a motion denouncing Islamophobia — their unity in stark contrast to what's happening federally.

"In 2017, it is my heartfelt wish that we did not have to pass a motion of this nature," Premier Kathleen Wynne said before the vote. "It enrages me that we still have to have this conversation globally."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police probe protest
Toronto police say they're investigating a complaint about a small anti-Muslim protest held outside a city mosque last week. The demonstration, reportedly consisting of a dozen participants, took place outside the Masjid Toronto. Images on social media showed protesters carrying signs with anti-Muslim slogans as worshippers were entering the mosque.

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BOOST FAT BURNING

THE POWERFUL SLIMMING EFFECT OF HEAT

Are you looking for a smart way to burn body fat on a daily basis? Scientists have found that a natural food substance in chili has powerful effects on body fat levels. The key is in heat production.

Our body has two types of fat tissue; White and Brown. White fat is passive and just stores fat on your body. But brown adipose fat tissue (BAT) regulates the burning of calories for heat. Brown fat was thought to only be active in infants, to stay warm, but studies are showing that BAT can still be active in adults and the more active it is, the thinner they are!*

HOW DO WE ACTIVATE BROWN FAT?

Freezing your body is one way (cold showers, exposure to ice etc.), but luckily, this is not the only way. BAT is also activated by a natural ingredient called capsaicin – the chili compound that makes hot peppers hot. Add chili to a meal and you increase fat burning up to 150%.*

ADDING EGCG FROM GREEN TEA TO MAKE A "SUPER FAT BURNER"

The problem though, is that for best results, you need to add chili to most meals.* Since this is not practical, New Nordic has designed a tablet called Chili Burn™, containing the ideal amounts of chili pepper for fat burning. But to increase the power of the tablet, we added green tea and chromium, which have long been used and proven to promote slimming, especially around the belly.* Take one tablet with your morning and mid day meal, and you are on your way to a leaner you.

DID YOU KNOW?

Chili has been blamed for hurting the stomach lining and creating a burning sensation, but research shows the opposite. Hot chili peppers actually protect the stomach lining and may prevent gastric upsets.*

TEST YOURSELF

- ○ I want to lose at least 5 kilos
- ○ I store fat on my belly
- ○ I don't eat many spices
- ○ I don't drink a lot of green tea
- ○ I don't exercise twice a week

If you answered "yes" to most of these questions, then Chili Burn is a great tool for you to lose weight safely and surely.

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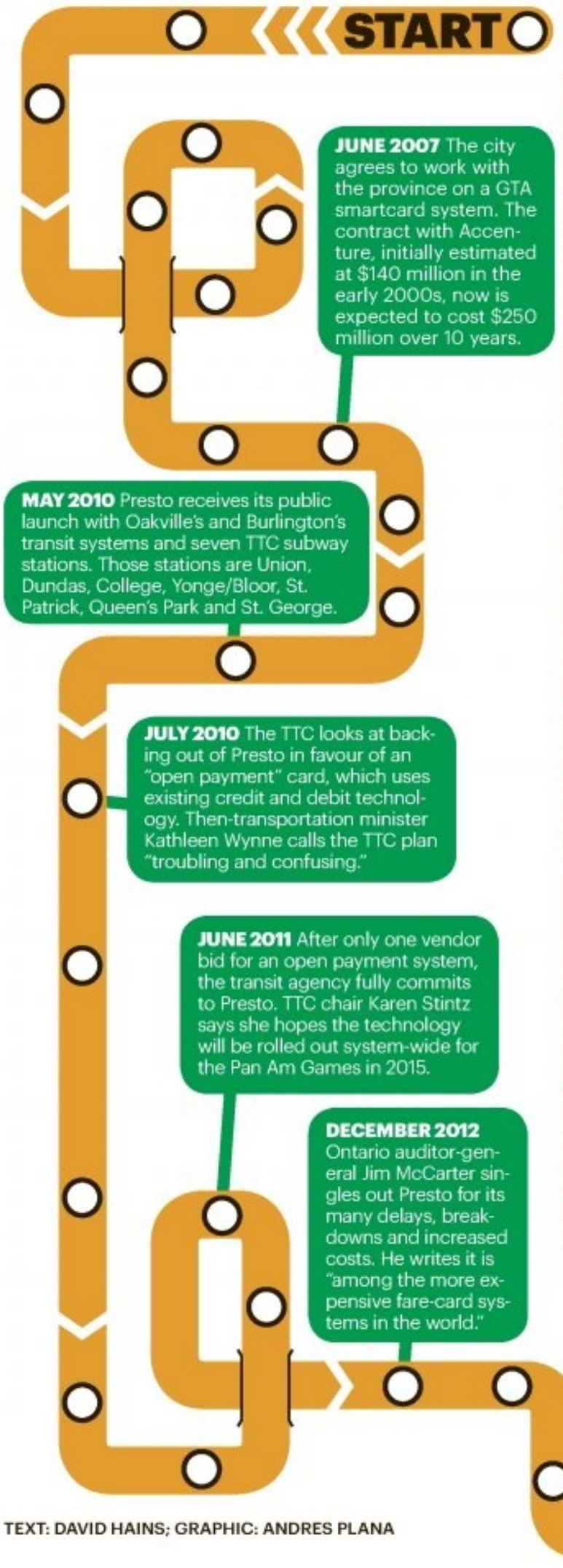
FOCUS ON TRANSIT

Presto rollout less than magical

Ontario's transit smart-card was supposed to make everything easy for riders, but the project has been a decade-long headache. Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong called it "a lemon" as Presto faced renewed criticism this week, this time for too many broken machines. Coun. Joe Mihevc agreed the state of Presto was unacceptable and called on Metrolinx to fix the situation. Here's a timeline of the devolving Presto saga:


START
JUNE 2007 The city agrees to work with the province on a GTA smartcard system. The contract with Accenture, initially estimated at $140 million in the early 2000s, now is expected to cost $250 million over 10 years.
MAY 2010 Presto receives its public launch with Oakville's and Burlington's transit systems and seven TTC subway stations. Those stations are Union, Dundas, College, Yonge/Bloor, St. Patrick, Queen's Park and St. George.
JULY 2010 The TTC looks at backing out of Presto in favour of an "open payment" card, which uses existing credit and debit technology. Then-transportation minister Kathleen Wynne calls the TTC plan "troubling and confusing."
JUNE 2011 After only one vendor bid for an open payment system, the transit agency fully commits to Presto. TTC chair Karen Stintz says she hopes the technology will be rolled out system-wide for the Pan Am Games in 2015.
DECEMBER 2012 Ontario auditor-general Jim McCarter singles out Presto for its many delays, breakdowns and increased costs. He writes it is "among the more expensive fare-card systems in the world."
JUNE 2014 Metrolinx still doesn't know when Presto will be fully installed. Four years after its public launch, it's only available at 14 stations.

TEXT: DAVID HAINS; GRAPHIC: ANDRES PLANA

SOCIAL MEDIA

Metrolinx sorry for 'cesspool' TTC poll

Metrolinx has apologized for a photo posted online that showed a poll at the agency's offices disparaged the TTC as a "cesspool" and referred to its passengers as "the great unwashed."

The photo, which was posted to Twitter on Thursday morning, showed a whiteboard on which was written "How would you describe the TTC?"

Underneath someone had written the headings "cesspool," "terrible," "I like dirty subways" and "it's awesome considering they have no $." A heading in different handwriting and a different colour read "Hangin' with the 'great unwashed' just builds a strong immune system." Hash marks beneath each heading appeared to tally responses.

The photo was posted by someone who does not work for Metrolinx, which is the provincially owned transit agency for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area.

In an emailed statement, Metrolinx spokesperson Anne Marie Aikins confirmed that "today we learned there was an informal poll in one of our hallways, inviting people to comment (negatively) on the TTC."

She said that when management learned of the poll, they "immediately sent a notification to all senior executives to search their locations" in order to find where the whiteboard was displayed. She didn't say where it was found.

Asked for a response to the TTC being called a "cesspool" by employees at a partner transit agency, TTC spokesperson Brad Ross responded in a brief email.

"We were certainly disappointed to see this. Metrolinx have apologized, we have accepted it and will move on," he wrote.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **Hangin' with the 'great unwashed' just builds a strong immune system.**
> From the whiteboard

FOCUS ON TRANSIT

Far, far off the beaten track

metro EXPLAINS

How to rescue a car from a streetcar tunnel

David Hains
Metro | Toronto

It took six hours to extract the car from the tunnel and for streetcar service to resume. TWITTER

A car trapped in a streetcar tunnel disrupted the morning commutes of 3,000 to 5,000 transit riders on Thursday.

The driver, who told the TTC he was "following his GPS," drove into the Queen's Quay streetcar tunnel, which features many signs saying that cars are not allowed.

The car was discovered at 3:53 a.m., and the driver ran from the scene before eventually returning.

It took six hours to extract the car and resume streetcar service.

Metro explains how it happens and what it takes to fix the situation.

- Cars don't get trapped in the Queen's Quay tunnel often; it happens about once a year. The most recent incident was April 2016, when the driver also fled the scene.

- The TTC can't just use a tow truck to extract a stuck vehicle. Because streetcars are (supposed to be) the only vehicles to use the tunnel, the rails are raised 25 to 30 centimetres off the ground. Burying them in concrete or asphalt would be unnecessary and costly. The setup means that once cars go into the tunnel, sparks fly, the vehicles get flat tires and you can't just back out. "If we tried to use a tow truck," explained TTC spokesperson Brad Ross, "it would get stuck too."

- Instead of using a tow truck, the TTC uses a vehicle called a "swing loader," which is like a crane on rail wheels. The swing loader is typically used to move long strings of rail. But to remove a car, transit workers wrap the vehicle in chains and belts, lift it and back out of the tunnel.

- It took around 10 transit employees to extract the vehicle, not to mention the additional staff and resources for shuttle buses and other responses to the situation.

- Ross said the TTC will look at a gantry or barrier system to prevent cars from entering the tunnel. However, the TTC is wary that such a system could mistakenly trap streetcars inside.

- The driver has been issued a $425 ticket by the TTC for unauthorized entry. If the city wanted to increase the fine for this infrequent occurrence, it would have to ask the province.

METROEXPLAINS: Dude, where's my streetcar?

Story: David Hains;
Graphic: Jason Logan

2/40

The second new streetcar of the year arrived earlier this week at Leslie Barns.

It may not sound like much to only have two new streetcars after two months, but so far manufacturer **Bombardier is meeting its latest agreement.** Two more streetcars are expected by the end of April before production is scheduled to increase later in the year.

MARCH 2016 Even without a full rollout, Presto has already cost $277 million for the TTC portion — $22 million more than a 2012 estimate. At least 2,400 TTC vehicles still don't have Presto, and additional costs remain to install Presto gates at subway stations and upgrade the system.

OCTOBER 2016 At least 5 to 6 per cent of Presto machines are broken at any time, but a new TTC report shows it could be as high as 12 per cent. It means lots of lost money for the TTC.

DECEMBER 2016 Presto is now available on each streetcar, bus and Wheel Trans vehicle and at least one entrance at each subway station.

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Time for saying sorry 'has got to be over'

INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Feds accused of racially discriminating against kids

Indigenous leaders are slamming the government for "racial discrimination" and a lack of funding that forces too many children on reserves to be taken from their families into foster care.

Clutching a plush teddy bear at a Thursday news conference, Indigenous children's advocate Cindy Blackstock called on the Liberal government in Ottawa to show the same leadership and urgency for Indigenous kids that it has shown in bringing Syrian refugees to Canada.

"This is a country that stands up for human rights around the world and yet we are racially discriminating against little kids," she said. "I can't tell you how tired I am of seeing the government apologize to successive generations of First Nations children for problems they could have prevented," she said. "The time for saying 'I'm sorry' and the time for sending condolences has got to be over."

Speaking later outside the House of Commons, Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett acknowledged the problem.

The Indigenous leaders — including Blackstock and Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde — were marking the 10th anniversary of a human rights tribunal case that led to a landmark decision last year. The tribunal concluded that the federal government discriminated against thousands of Indigenous kids for failing to provide adequate funding for services.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Chief Perry Bellegarde listens as Cindy Blackstock addresses a news conference in Ottawa Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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BOOKS

Boyden challenged on story's originality

Controversy continues to follow Canadian author Joseph Boyden. Accusations of similarities between one of his texts and a story by an Ojibway storyteller have now surfaced, barely a month after the authenticity of his Indigenous identity came under question.

An article by Jorge Barrera published by APTN focuses on similarities found in a small book by healer and storyteller Ron Geyshick called Te Bwe Win and a story titled Bearwalker that appeared in Boyden's 2001 short-story collection Born With a Tooth. Boyden denies he copied the story.

The similarities were brought to light by Chuck Bourgeois, a graduate student at the University of Manitoba.

Canadian author Joseph Boyden THE CANADIAN PRESS

Boyden, award-winning author of The Orenda and Through Black Spruce, responded on Twitter: "I have always been fascinated by the oral stories that travel through communities." The story, he says, "stuck with him" and he eventually wrote the story Bearwalker.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Costs mean fewer apply to be citizens

IMMIGRATION

Processing fees jumped from $100 to over $500

Simon Michael of Eritrea is handed a flag on Canada Day in 2016. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

The number of immigrants applying for citizenship has plunged by a whopping 50 per cent at the same time as Ottawa has stripped a record number of Canadians of their citizenship.

According to the latest data from the Immigration Department, only 56,446 new citizenship applications were received in the first nine months of last year, a sharp decline from the 111,993 during the same period in 2015.

The number of new citizens approved also dropped by 48 per cent from 198,119 to 111,435 over the same period, said Andrew Griffith, a retired director general of the department who obtained the data.

While the tightened language proficiency and longer residency requirements have contributed to the decline, the steep increase in citizenship application fees under the former Conservative government is a key factor, Griffith said.

The processing fee was raised from $100 to $300 in February 2015 and again to $530 later that year, with an additional $100 right-of-citizenship fee required once the application is approved. Historically, citizenship applications have averaged close to 200,000 per year.

"The fee hike is a huge part. When you increase the price, you are not going to be able to afford it," noted Griffith, a fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute. "The fee is a significant barrier. If you are a professional, you can pay it with no problem. But if you are low-income, it becomes a burden."

The federal Liberals have tabled Bill C-6 to amend the Citizenship Act, which would reduce the residency requirement to three out of four years from four out of six and limiting the language and knowledge tests to applicants aged 18-54, instead of 14-64. However, there is no mention of a fee reduction in the bill.

Toronto lawyer Avvy Go, who spoke at Senate hearings into the bill, said the fees are a problem for the low-income households she serves at the Metro Toronto Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic.

"When you look at who the poor are, they are people from racialized communities, women and the disabled, who are bearing the consequences. You are going to further disenfranchise the vulnerable," said Go.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

POLITICS

'Extreme vetting' isn't really so extreme

U.S. President Donald Trump's plans for "extreme vetting" of migrants may seem a stark contrast to Ottawa's, but the two countries' systems are more closely aligned than many people would like to believe. Despite the general impression that Canada has more tolerant and lax border security than the U.S., experts say the countries have similar processes to keep terrorists and criminals out. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BORDER CRISIS

Manitoba steps up to help asylum seekers

Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
For Metro | Winnipeg

After calling on the federal government to adopt a "coordinated approach" in dealing with the influx of asylum seekers, the premier of Manitoba announced his own plans to dispatch emergency resources on Thursday.

Premier Brian Pallister and Minister of Education and Training Ian Wishart announced 14 emergency beds and $180,000 in funding.

The money for MANSO will be put toward hiring a refugee response coordinator, while the funding for Welcome Place will provide more access to support services, like paralegal advice and transportation from Emerson to Winnipeg, for refugee claimants.

"Manitobans have never, ever turned their backs on people," said Pallister.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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3	6	9	2	8	7	5	1	4
2	8	5	9	1	4	3	6	7
5	7	6	8	3	2	1	4	9
1	9	2	7	4	5	6	8	3
8	3	4	1	6	9	7	5	2
9	1	8	5	2	3	4	7	6
6	5	7	4	9	8	2	3	1
4	2	3	6	7	1	8	9	5

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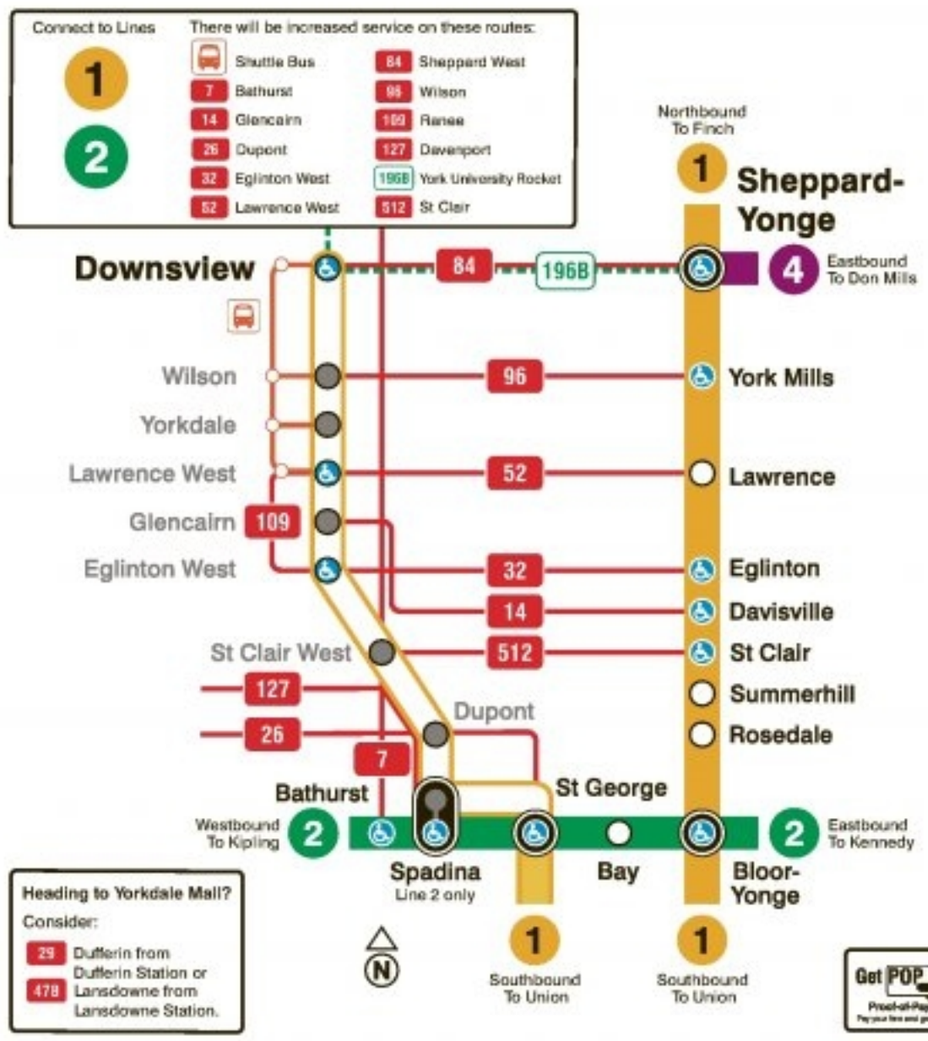

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Free speech alive and well in U.S.

Rosemary Westwood has relocated from Canada to the U.S. She chronicles her observations in a weekly column with Metro.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
From the U.S.

Milo Yiannopoulos announces his resignation from Breitbart News during a press conference in New York City. After comments he made regarding pedophilia surfaced in an online video, Yiannopoulos was uninvited to speak at CPAC and lost a major book deal with Simon & Schuster. GETTY IMAGES

Everyone loves a hypocrite, which is to say, hates. Hates with pleasure, really, and never more so than in politics.

Enter the left-wing glee this week when Milo Yiannopoulos lost his book deal, lost his job at the extreme right wing website Breitbart, and was kicked off the program for the Conservative Political Action Conference.

For the avowed free-speech loving right-wing of American politics, Yiannopoulos's resurfaced support of sex between men and 13-year-old boys was a bridge too far, and in rejecting him, they tripped over the "acceptable speech" line so many had, in their own glee, raged against for years.

Down came the implicit support for the extreme right, though not for conference-sponsor Breitbart itself, and out went white supremacist Richard Spencer when he tried to enter the conference on Thursday.

If this all sounds a little college lefty, safe-space-esque, "we don't condone that kind of talk here," that's because it is. And in becoming what they supposedly detest, a great swath of extreme right sympathizers masquerading as first-amendment lovers have been undone.

But the proof that no one need fear for the state of free speech, especially not anti-immigrant, anti-gay, anti-woman, anti-Muslim and anti-Black speech, came in it's most abundant, outrageous and glowing orange from a year and a half ago in Donald Trump himself. If Trump, who possesses an uncanny ability to mix pointed insults with otherwise inscrutable speech, could find himself in the oval office, America's problems do not include threats to right-wing free speech.

Shutting down Yiannopoulos' campus talks or criticizing publishers or firing that nonprofit director who called Michelle Obama an "ape in heels" — these are not attacks on free speech. They are simply evidence of consequence. As in, individual responsibility, or the right's political raison d'etre.

It's somewhere on the spectrum of irritating to outright infuriating that I, and thousands of people on Twitter, feel the need to keep pointing out this idea of consequence, as well as the fact that no one is obliged to listen to you.

When I ran all this by a friend the other day, he shook his head in disgust at the very idea of spending a whole column, like this, yet again discussing the first amendment.

"Everyone talks about free speech," he said. "What about good ideas?"

What, indeed.

The cultural focus on what one can say does seemed to have drowned out questions about what's really worth listening to. Richard Spencer was swarmed by media as he was kicked out of CPAC. Yiannopoulos has found fame through bigotry. Donald Trump, well, we all know what happened to him.

And it wasn't a good idea.

EQUALITY

Bills targeting trans rights floundering

Bills to curtail transgender people's access to public restrooms are pending in about a dozen states, but even in conservative bastions such as Texas and Arkansas they may be doomed by high-powered opposition.

The bills have taken on a new significance this week following the decision by President Donald Trump's administration to revoke an Obama-era federal directive instructing public schools to let transgender students use bathrooms and locker rooms of their chosen gender. Many conservative leaders hailed the assertions by top Trump appointees that the issue was best handled at the state and local level.

Yet at the state level, bills that would limit transgender bathroom access are floundering. The chief reason, according to transgender-rights leaders, is the backlash that hit North Carolina after its legislature approved a bill in 2016 requiring transgender people to use restrooms that correspond to the sex on their birth certificates. Several major sports organizations shifted events away from North Carolina, and businesses decided not to expand in the state. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Immigrants brace for arrests

DEPORTATIONS

U.S. crackdown prompts many to change up daily routines

Jeanette Vizguerra, an undocumented immigrant in the U.S. for 20 years, has taken refuge in a church in Denver, Colorado, with her family for fear of being deported. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

In Orange County, California, dozens of immigrant parents have signed legal documents authorizing friends and relatives to pick up their children from school and access their bank accounts to pay their bills in the event they are arrested by immigration agents.

In Philadelphia, immigrants are carrying around wallet-size Know Your Rights guides in Spanish and English that explain what to do if they're rounded up.

And in New York, 23-year-old Zuleima Dominguez and other members of her Mexican family are careful about answering the door and start making worried phone calls when someone doesn't come home on time.

Around the country, President Donald Trump's efforts to crack down on the estimated 11 million immigrants living illegally in the U.S. have spread fear and anxiety and led many people to brace for arrest and to change up their daily routines in hopes of not getting caught.

In El Paso, Texas, Carmen Ramos and her friends have developed a network to keep each other updated via text messages on where immigration checkpoints have been set up.

She said she also is making certain everything she does is in order at all times. She checks her taillights before leaving the house to make sure they are working. She won't speed and keeps a close eye on her surroundings.

"We are surprised that even a ticket can get us back to Mexico," said the 41-year-old Ramos, who with her husband and three children left Ciudad Juarez because of drug violence and death threats in 2008 and entered the U.S. on tourist visas that have since expired. "We wouldn't have anywhere to return."

An undocumented Guatemalan migrant mother and her son have called an Austin, Texas, church home for more than a year. Hilda Ramirez says they were fleeing the danger of their country and were caught by immigration authorities as they illegally crossed the border at Texas in 2014. After they were released from a holding facility, a pastor allowed them to live on church grounds.

The unease among immigrants has been building but intensified in recent weeks with ever-clearer signs that the Trump administration would jettison the Obama-era policy of focusing mostly on deporting those who had committed serious crimes.

The administration announced Tuesday that any immigrant in the country illegally who is charged with or convicted of any offence, or even suspected of a crime, will now be an enforcement priority. That could include people arrested for shoplifting or other minor offences, or those who simply crossed the border illegally.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IMMIGRATION

Trump, aides not eye to eye

Seeking to tamp down growing unease in Latin America, U.S. Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly pledged Thursday that America won't enlist its military to enforce immigration laws and that there will be "no mass deportations."

Only hours earlier, President Donald Trump suggested the opposite. He told CEOs at the White House the deportation push was a "military operation."

Kelly said all deportations will honour human rights and follow the U.S. legal system. He said that includes multiple appeals offered to those facing deportation. Kelly said the U.S. approach will involve "close coordination" with Mexico's government. "There will be no use of military forces in immigration," Kelly said. "There will be no mass deportations."

Yet while Kelly tried to alleviate Mexico's concerns, Trump was fanning them further with tough talk about "getting really bad dudes out of this country at a rate nobody has ever seen before." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro SCIENCE

Your essential science news

Major Mickey 20 live mice arrived at the International Space Station this week to test how wounds heal in zero gravity

DECODED by Sarah-Joyce Battersby and Andrés Plana

BACKUP PLANET

Scientists have announced seven Earth-sized planets are orbiting a dim, sun-like star a mere 40 light-years away from us. Among the cluster of newly-found celestial bodies in the TRAPPIST-1 solar system, at least three could theoretically support life as we know it. **So should we start packing our bags?**

Not so fast
Even with a spacecraft that moves at the speed of light (and such a craft does not exist) it would take almost forty years to get there.

Gas-tus
The Hubble Space Telescope is already on the hunt for oxygen, ozone and methane — gases that are byproducts of life — coming from the planets.

Goldilocks zone
This is the nickname for the distance from a star that makes a planet not too hot, not too cold to contain liquid water — considered a key ingredient for life.

Old soul
Young dwarf stars shoot off X-rays and ultraviolet light — potential threats to life. But this star might be past its tantrum phase.

Moving up
Some of the planets in TRAPPIST-1 are a touch bigger than Earth, giving about 10 per cent more room — enough space for that extra bedroom.

4 THINGS ABOUT THE SEARCH FOR LIVABLE PLANETS

Exclusive club
Astronomers have discovered almost 3,600 planets outside our solar system. Around four dozen are in the habitable zone, and of those only 18 are Earth-sized.

Fresh eyes
To help explore these planets and the rest of space, the James Webb Space Telescope will launch in October 2018, with instruments from the Canadian Space Agency.

YIMBYs
Earth isn't the only planet in our solar system that could theoretically support life. Mars and Venus are also in the Goldilocks zone, but no alien friends have said hi — yet.

Not alone, again
In 2014, NASA announced the discovery of Kepler-186f, an Earth-sized planet in the habitable zone. But it's 500 light-years away from Earth, so maybe not so convenient.

FINDINGS
Your week in science

The Eagle takes flight
The Apollo 11 command module is going on a road trip. The capsule took Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin to the moon in 1969, but has mostly stayed put at the Smithsonian in D.C. since its historic journey. The tour will hit four U.S. cities ahead of the 50th anniversary of the lunar mission.

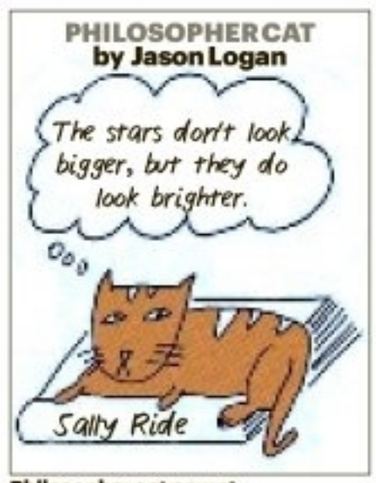
Stuck on you
Juno, NASA's Jupiter orbiter, is taking four times longer than expected to circle the gas giant. Some valves on the craft are sticky, upping the 14-day journey to 53 days, and boosting the billion-dollar bill.

SOUND SMART

DEFINITION
The barycentre is the centre of mass of two or more bodies that are orbiting each other.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
If I keep eating so much, the moon and the Earth are going to get a new barycentre.

PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan



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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION DIGITAL

‘Social thriller’ tackles racism

GET OUT

Jordan Peele turns lens on racial tension in film debut

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Jordan Peele learned how to scare people by making them laugh. As characters like Funkenstein’s Monster on the popular sketch show Key & Peele he investigated popular culture, ethnic stereotypes and race relations through a satirical lens.

Get Out, his directorial debut, however, contains few laughs. By design. It’s a horror film about college students Rose and Chris, played by Allison Williams and Daniel Kaluuya. Things are getting serious and it’s time to meet the parents. “Do they know I’m black?” he asks. She assures him race is a non-issue as they head to her leafy up-state hometown to meet parents Missy and Dean (Catherine Keener and Bradley Whitford). After a few days Chris feels uneasy, a sensation compounded by an alarming call from his best friend. “I’ve been doing my research and a whole lot of brothers have gone missing in that suburb,” he says. Chris wonders if his hosts are racist and deadly or just racist.

“It’s a horror movie from an African American’s perspective,” Peele told Forbes.com.

While working on the script Peele sought advice from Sean of the Dead director Edgar Wright and other genre filmmakers but says ultimately his career in comedy was the best training to make a horror film.

Making people laugh, he declares, and scaring the pants off them share a similar skill set. Both are all about pacing, reveals and both must feel like they take place in reality he says.

His love of horror dates back to watching A Nightmare on Elm Street as a teen. It was the first movie that really terrified him. Since then, he says the first sight of Hannibal Lecter in Silence of the Lambs really frightened him. “You come down the hallway, and he’s just waiting for you,” he told the New York Times. “It’s the protagonist in motion and something waiting for him, patiently and calmly. Those are so chilling to me.”

Get Out isn’t a typical horror film, however. Peele refers to it as a “social thriller,” a movie that veers away from the Nightmare on Elm Street thrills that made such an impression on him as a teen. Instead the main villain is something more insidious than even the slash-happy Freddy Kruger; it’s racial tension. He says the story is personal but is quick to add it speedily veers off from anything strictly autobiographical. Instead it is an exploration of racism in all its forms he hopes will ultimately be relatable for his audience no matter who they are.

He compares Chris’s anxiety to Sidney Poitier’s classic Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner. In that film parents, played by Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn, have their attitudes challenged when their daughter introduces them to her African American fiancé. He says the uncomfortable situation of meeting in-laws for the first time is universal. “The layer of race that enriches and complicates that tension (in the film) becomes relatable,” he told GQ. “It’s made to be an inclusive movie. If you don’t go through the movie with the main character, I haven’t done my job right.”

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Get Out	★★★★
A United Kingdom	★★★
The Girl with All the Gifts	★★★★
I Am Not Your Negro	★★★★
Dying Laughing	★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

Chris, played by Daniel Kaluuya, with girlfriend Rose, played by Allison Williams, are the lead characters in Get Out, “a horror movie from an African American’s perspective.” CONTRIBUTED

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DOCUMENTARY

Race in America through James Baldwin's eyes

One might regard filmmaker Raoul Peck's documentary as a case of unfinished business.

Back in 1979, acclaimed author James Baldwin wrote to his literary agent about a plan to write a book linking the lives of three towering figures of the 1960s civil rights movement: Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr.

All three were assassinated, and as noted by Baldwin, never lived to see the age of 40.

Baldwin's manuscript never got past 30 pages, so Peck, with the full co-operation of the late writer's estate, uses his perspective as a filmmaker to reimagine and broaden the scope of the project.

The result — hard-hitting and insightful — is a reminder that the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Using Baldwin's own words (voiced by Samuel L. Jackson) and a range of archival interviews in which we see the man himself, Peck links the black community's past struggles for equality to the present day.

We're reminded of the historic civil rights protests throughout the U.S. South in the 1950s and 1960s and the raw hatred and ugliness they exposed. That's juxtaposed with the 2014 killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri by a police officer, which reignited the rage of the black community.

There are also photos to remind us of other recent examples of the ongoing violence faced by African-Americans, especially young people like Trayvon Martin, who died in 2012 at the hands of a self-appointed vigilante who was later acquitted of murder by a jury in Florida.

We also learn a good deal about the life of Baldwin himself, a fascinating figure who fled to Europe in 1948 only to return to take up a burden that his race had placed upon him. The FBI took note in 1966, labelling Baldwin both a homosexual and a "dangerous individual."

Throughout the film, we hear Baldwin's own eloquent and sorrowful analysis of the race issue that America continues to grapple with. It's a painful reminder of why groups like Black Lives Matter still matter.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

James Baldwin in I Am Not Your Negro. BOB ADELMAN

INTERVIEW

Collaborations with DuVernay alter course of producer's path

Joe Callaghan
Metro Canada

These are sweet times for Howard Barish. More than three decades after turning away from his family's iconic ice cream empire to pursue his storytelling dreams, Barish will hear his name read out at the 89th Academy Awards Sunday night.

"I've been in the industry a long time and got to do a lot of interesting work but it's just really, really nice to make it to this level," says Barish, nominated for best documentary alongside director Ava DuVernay for 13TH, their searing exploration of race and incarceration in the U.S.

Barish's journey has been a meandering one. The 57-year-old describes it as "a very, very lucky life with a lot of hard work" thrown in. He wasn't yet in his teens when his family took Dickie Dee's, their ice cream vending business with its trademark tricycles, from Winnipeg to Toronto in 1971. It was there where his filmmaking fires were lit.

"My dad had a Super 8 camera that I fell in love with," he says.

The most significant stroke of luck may have come eight years ago when a publicist with stories she desperately wanted to tell moved into an office in the same building as Barish's Kandoo Films in L.A.

DuVernay is nothing short of a filmmaking revelation. She got behind the lens in 2008, yet 13TH's nomination is her second after Selma's nod in 2014.

"Once Ava realized that there was this sandbox of toys in the building, it didn't take her long to come down and say 'hey I wrote a script that I want to direct, do you want to help me produce it'? My initial reaction was 'no, I don't even know you'. But it didn't take long to realize that she's an incredibly intelligent, articulate woman and first and foremost incredibly passionate."

Success was swift. The first of their seven collaborations was 2010's I Will Follow before Middle of Nowhere wowed Sundance in 2012. It's unlikely any story will be as important as the one told so toweringly in 13TH. In deeply unsettling times, the Netflix collaboration has struck a major chord.

The best of the very best?

It's supposed to be easy this year: La La Land dances away with gold. That's what the oddsmakers say. But, as ever, nothing can be taken for granted on Oscars night. Here are our picks for who will, could, and should win. PETER HOWELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BEST ACTRESS

Will: Emma Stone (La La Land)
Could: Natalie Portman (Jackie) or Isabelle Huppert (Elle)
Should: Natalie Portman (Jackie)
Why: Front-runner Stone is all set to be the belle of the Oscars with her enchanting performance. But the inner fortitude Portman displayed as the widowed Jacqueline Kennedy impressed me more. Huppert is long overdue for an Oscar and a win is possible and deserved.

BEST PICTURE

Will: La La Land or Moonlight
Could: Hidden Figures
Should: Moonlight
Why: The safe money is supposedly on La La Land to win, but I consider this category too close to call. Moonlight's unique coming-of-age story has so much resonance to modern times, I'm thinking — hoping — that the Academy will go for it. And Hidden Figures just might surprise everybody, much like Spotlight did last year.

BEST DIRECTOR

Will: Barry Jenkins (Moonlight) or Damien Chazelle, (La La Land)
Could: Denis Villeneuve (Arrival)
Should: Barry Jenkins
Why: If voters go La La Land for best picture, then I think they'll choose Jenkins for best director, which would significantly make him the first African-American director to win this honour. And if they choose Moonlight for Best Picture, then Chazelle for Best Director.

BEST ACTOR

Will: Casey Affleck (Manchester by the Sea)
Could: Denzel Washington (Fences)
Should: Casey Affleck (Manchester by the Sea)
Why: Affleck and Washington each play tortured souls in their respective roles of defeated family men. Affleck's performance was bone deep and truly memorable; Washington's was solid yet showy. But Denzel is a two-time Oscar champ and he won at SAG this year.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Will: Viola Davis (Fences)
Could: Michelle Williams (Manchester by the Sea)
Should: Naomie Harris (Moonlight)
Why: This is the easiest Oscar to call and the toughest to endorse. Davis will win for her tremendous performance, although it's arguably category fraud: she really should be up for best actress. Williams defines strong support with her brief Manchester scenes. But Harris exceeds all stereotypes with her moving portrayal.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Will: Mahershala Ali (Moonlight)
Could: Jeff Bridges (Hell or High Water)
Should: Mahershala Ali
Why: Ali has been the obvious choice here ever since he first wowed audiences at TIFF and other fall festivals with his deeply affecting and stereotype-busting portrayal of a fatherly drug dealer. It will be a huge upset if he loses — but if he does, the prize would likely go to Jeff Bridges for his wily lawman character.

BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

Will: Manchester by the Sea
Could: La La Land
Should: Manchester by the Sea
Why: Voters often bestow this as a consolation prize to films they aren't choosing for best picture, so Manchester by the Sea may win for that reason. More than this, though, writer/director **Kenneth Lonergan** truly deserves recognition for finding a beating heart within the depths of tragedy and despair, and also some welcome notes of comedy.

BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY

Will: Moonlight
Could: Arrival
Should: Moonlight
Why: How do you find poetry in a crime-infested and crack-ridden Miami neighbourhood? Writer/director Barry Jenkins shows how with Moonlight, which he adapted from an unproduced play by **Tarell Alvin McCraney**. It would be no shame if Eric Heisserer's impactful adaption of Ted Chiang's cerebral short story for Story of Your Life took the prize for Arrival.

55%

While 61 per cent of Canadians think it's OK for celebrities and athletes to publicly express their political views, 55 per cent said they oppose using awards shows for that purpose. SOURCE: ANGUS REID

MOVIE LISTINGS

DOWNTOWN

Carlton, 20 Carlton St.
Below Her Mouth Fri-Thu 4-9:25 **A Cure for Wellness** Fri-Thu 1:20-4:30-8 **Dying Laughing** Fri-Thu 1:40-7 **Fist Fight** Fri-Thu 1:35-4:20-6:55-9 **Galaxy of Horrors** Wed 9 **Get Out** Fri 1:15-3:45-6:30-9:05 Sat 1:15-3:45-6:30-9:05-10:50 Sun-Thu 1:15-3:45-6:30-9:05 **The Great Wall** Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:50-9:10 John Wick: Chapter 2 Fri 1:15-3:50-3:55-6-9:20 Sat-Thu 1:15-3:55-6:35-9:20 **LEGO Batman Movie** Fri-Thu 1:45-4:10-6:40-9:05 **My Scientology Movie** Fri-Sat 1:30-3:50-6:55-9:15 Sun-Mon 1:30-3:50 Tue 1:30-3:50-6:55-9:15 Wed 1:30-3:50 Thu 1:30-3:50-6:55-9:15 **The Room** Sat 11 **Split** Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-6:35-9:15

Scotiabank Theatre, 259 Richmond
A Cure for Wellness Fri-Sun 12:05-3:15-6:30-9:40 Mon 12:30-4:30-6:50-10:10 Tue-Wed 12:30-3:40-6:50-10:10 Thu 12:30-4:30-6:50-10:10 **Fifty Shades Darker** Fri-Sun 1:35-4:30-7:25-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:05-10 **The Great Wall** Fri-Sat 4:50 Sun 2:10-4:50-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 3; 3D Fri-Sat 2:10-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 12:25-6:30-9:30; IMAX Fri-Sun 12-2:30-5:10-7:50-10:35 Mon-Tue 1-4-7-10 Wed 1-4-10 Thu 1-4 **John Wick: Chapter 2** Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:35 Mon-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:35 Fri-Sun 1:25-4:20-7:15-10:15 Mon 1:40-4:35-7:30-10:30 Tue-Wed 1:40-4:35-7:30-10:25 Thu 1:40-4:35 **Kung Fu Yoga** Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:30 Mon-Wed 1:50-4:45-7:50-10:25 Thu 1:50-4:45-7:50-10:40 **LEGO Batman Movie** Fri 12-2:35-5:15 Sat 1:15-4:40 Sun 12-2:35-5:15 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:30; 3D Fri-Sun 8-10:35 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50 Logan Thu 7:30-10:50; IMAX Thu 7-10:20 **Manchester by the Sea** Fri-Sun 12:15-3:20-6:25-9:30 Mon-Thu 12:25-3:30-6:35-9:40 **Passengers** Fri-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:05-9:50 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:45-6:25-9:10 **Resident Evil: The Final Chapter** Fri 1:45-6:50 Sat 6:50 Mon-Tue 7:45 Wed 2:10-7:45 Thu 7:45; 3D Fri 4:40-10:10 Sat 10:10 Sun 4:40-8-10:10 Mon-Tue 10:20 Wed 4:50-10:20 Thu 10:30 **Rings** Fri-Sat 4:25-9:30 Sun 10:35 Mon-Thu 5-10:25 **Rogue One** Fri-Sun 12:30-6:45 Mon-Thu 12:35-6:45; 3D Fri-Sun 3:35-9:50 Mon-Thu 3:35-9:45 **Split** Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7-10 Mon-Wed 1:25-4:20-7:20-10:15 Thu 1:30-4:20-7:25-10:35 **xXx: Return of Xander Cage** 3D Fri-Sun 1:40-7:40 Mon-Thu 2-7:40

Market Square, 80 Front St.
A Cure for Wellness Fri 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 Sat-Sun 7:05-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 **Fist Fight** Fri-Thu 12:55-3:30-6:40-9:35 **Get Out** Fri-Thu 1-3:45-6:45-9:30 **The Great Wall** Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:50-9:25 **John Wick: Chapter 2** Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:55-9:40 **LEGO Batman Movie** Fri 1:15-3:35-6:30-9:05 Sat-Sun 12:45-1:15-3:35-4:05-6:30-9:05 Mon-Thu 1:15-3:35-6:30-9:05

Varsity, 55 Bloor St. W.
20th Century Women Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Fences Fri-Thu 5:40 **Fifty Shades Darker** Fri 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Sat-Sun 10:45-1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10 **Hidden Figures** Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:35-9:50 Mon 12:30-3:20-6:35-9:50 Tue-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:35-9:50 Jackie Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 **La La Land** Fri 12:20-3:25-6:50-10 Sat-Sun 10:30-12:20-3:25-6:50-10 Mon 12:30-3:25-6:50-10 Tue 12:20-3:25-6:50-10 Wed-Thu 12:30-3:25-6:50-10 **Lion** Fri 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:15 Sat-Sun 10:30-1:10-4:10-7:10-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:15 **A Man Called Ove** Fri 1:15-4:05-6:55-9:40 Sat-Sun 10:45-1:15-4:05-6:55-9:40 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:05-6:55-9:40 **Manchester by the Sea** Fri-Sun 12:15-3:20-6:25-9:30 Mon 12:40-3:35-9:30 Tue 12:15-3:20-6:25-9:30 Wed-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:25-9:30 **Moonlight** Fri 1:05-3:55-6:45-9:20 Sat-Sun 10:30-1:05-3:55-6:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:55-6:45-9:20 **The Salesman** Fri 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:10 **Silence** Fri-Thu 2-9

Yonge & Dundas, 10 Dundas St.
Arrival Fri 1:10-4:10-7:10-10 Sat 1:10-7:10-10 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 9:55 **Before I Fall** Thu 7:30-10 **Cook Up a Storm** Fri-Sun 2:10-4:40-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 2:20-4:40-7:20-9:40 **Dancer** Fri 5 Mon 1:30 Tue 4:45 Thu 2 **A Dog's Purpose** Fri-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:40 Mon-Wed 7:20-9:45 **Duckweed** Fri-Sun 2:20-5-7:30-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-9:50 **Fifty Shades Darker** Fri-Sat 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Sun-Mon 1-4-7-10 Tue 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Wed 1-4-7-10 Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 **Fist Fight** Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon-Wed 2-4:30-7:10-9:25 Thu 4:30-7:10-9:25 **The Founder** Fri-Sun 7:20-10:10 Mon-Wed 7:30-10:10 **Get Out** Fri-Sat 1-4-7-10 Sun-Mon 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Tue 1-4-7-10 Wed 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:20-10 Fri 12:20-3-5:50-8:20-11 Sat 4:10 Sun 12:20-3-5:50-8:20-11 Mon-Thu 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:20 Sat 12:20-8:20-11 **The Girl With All the Gifts** Fri 7 Sat 10:15 Sun 7-9:30 Mon 10:30 Tue 10 Thu 9 **The Great Wall** 3D Fri-Sat 2-5-7:45-10:45 Sun-Mon 12:20-3:20-6:05-9:05 Tue 2-5-7:45-10:45 Wed 12:20-3:20-6:05-9:05 Thu 12-3-6-9 **Hacksaw Ridge** Fri 2-9:30 Mon 3:30 Tue 2 **Hidden Figures** Fri-Sun 1:10-4-7-10 Mon-Thu 7-9:50 **John Wick: Chapter 2** Fri 1:30-4:30-7:25-10:25 Sat 7:25-10:25 Sun-Mon 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Tue 1:30-4:30-7:25-10:25 Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Thu 1-4 **Journey to the West: The Demons Strike Back** Fri-Sun 5:30; 3D Fri-Sun 2:50-8:10-10:40 Mon-Wed 6:40-9:20 Thu 9:20 **Kedi** Fri-Sun 12:40-3-5:20-7:40-10 Mon-Wed 1-3:30-7:40-10 Thu 1-3:30-7-10 **La La Land** Fri-Sun 1:20-4:30-7:30-10:30 Mon-Wed 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:20 Thu 4:10-7:10-10:20 **LEGO Batman Movie** Fri-Sat 12-3-6-9 Sun-Mon 12:20-3:20-6:20-9:20 Tue 12-3-6-9 Wed-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:20-9:20; 3D Fri-Sun 12:30-3:10-5:50-8:30-11:10 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:10-6:20-9; IMAX Fri-Mon 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:30 Tue 12-2:40-10:30 Wed 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:30 Thu 12-3:20 **Lion** Fri-Sun 12:50-3:35-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:20 **Logan** Thu 7-10:30; IMAX Thu 7-10:20 **Moana** Fri-Sun 4:40 Fri-Sun 1:40 **Paterson** Fri-Sun 2-5-7:50-10:50 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:20 **Rangoon** Fri-Sun 12:30-3:55-7:15-10:40 Mon-Thu 12:40-4-6:50-10:10 **Sailor Moon R: The Movie** Wed 7-9 Thu 4:30-7 **The Shack** Thu 7-10 **Sharkwater** Sat 4:30 **Table 19** Thu 7:10 **A United Kingdom** Fri-Sun 12:10-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:50 Mon-Wed 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:30 Thu 1:10-4:10-6:50-9:30

MIDTOWN

Yonge-Eglinton Centre, 2300 Yonge St.
Fifty Shades Darker Fri 2-4:50-7:45-10:30 Sat 11:10-2-4:50-7:45-10:30 Sun 12:55-3:40-6:45-9:45 Mon-Tue 1:40-4:30-7:30-10:10 Wed 1:20-4:10-7:10-9:50 Thu 1:40-4:30-7:30-10:10 Fri 4:10-7:10 Sat 1:10-4-7:10 Sun 1:10-4-6:50-9:45 Mon 4:05-6:50-9:45 Tue 4:05-7:10:15 Wed 4:05-6:50-9:45 Thu 4:05 **Fist Fight** Fri 1:35-3:45-6-8:15-10:25 Sat 11:40-4:45-5:30-7:05-9:40 Sun 12:50-3:05-5:20-7:55-10:05 Mon-Tue 2:45-5-7:40-10 Wed 5-7:40-10 Thu 2:45-5-7:40-10 **Get Out** Fri 2:35-5:10-8-10:30 Sat 11-1:45-5:30-8-10:30 Sun 1:45-4:25-7:20-10:15 Mon 1:30-3:55-7-10:30 Tue 1:55-4:30-7-9:50 Wed 1:45-5-7:25-10:15 Thu 1:55-4:30-7-9:50 **The Great Wall** Fri-Thu 4:55; 3D Fri 2:25-7:35-10:10 Sat 11:50-2:25-7:35-10:10 Sun-Thu 2:25-7:35-10:10 **Hidden Figures** Fri 1:35-4:30-7:25-10:20 Sat 12-3:10-6:30-9:35 Sun 1-3:15-6:30-9:30 Mon-Tue 1:35-4:25-7:15-10 Wed 1:10-4-6:50-9:35 Thu 1:35-4:25-7:15-10 **John Wick: Chapter 2** Fri 1:40-4:20 Sat 1:25-1:55 Sun 1:30-4:20 Mon-Tue 1:40-4:20 Wed 4:20 Thu 1:40-4:20-7:45-10:25 Fri 4:30-7:30-10:30 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:20-10:15 Mon 4:30-7:20-10:15 Tue 4:30-7:30-10:30 Wed 4:30-7:20-10:15 Thu 4:30-7:30-10:30 Fri-Sat 7:40-10:25 Sun 7-10:15 Mon 7:20-10:25 Tue-Wed 7:20-10:05 **La La Land** Fri 1:30-4:25-7:20-10:15 Sat 4:25-7:20-10:15 Sun 12:45-3:35-6:40-9:50 Mon-Tue 1:30-4:25-7:25-10:15 Wed 1-3:55-6:55-9:45 Thu 1:30-4:25-7:25-10:15 Fri 3:45-6:35-9:30 Sat 12:45-3:35-6:30-9:30 Sun 12:45-3:35-6:30-9:25 Mon 3:45-6:35-9:25 Tue 3:45-6:35-9:30 Wed-Thu 3:45-6:35-9:25 **LEGO Batman Movie** Fri 2:15-5 Sat 11:30-2:30-5 Sun 1:15-4 Mon-Thu 1:55-4:40; 3D Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat 7:55-10:20 Sun-Thu 7:10-9:40 **Logan** Thu 7-10:15 Thu 7:15-10:30 **Split** Fri 1:30-4:10-7-10 Sat 4:10-7-10 Sun 4:10-6:55-10 Mon 1:30-4:10-9:45 Tue 1:30-4:10-6:55-9:45 Wed 4:10-6:55-9:45 Thu 1:50-4:40 **TMNT: Out of the Shadows** Sat 11

NORTH YORK

Empress Walk, 5095 Yonge St.
Confidential Assignment Fri 12:45-3:40-6:30-9:25 Sat 6:40-9:40 Sun 12:45-3:40-6:30-9:25 Mon 3:40-10 Tue-Wed 3:40-6:30-9:25 Thu 3:30 **Fabricated City** Fri 1-3:55-6:50-9:50 Sat 12:30-3:30-7:20-10:15 Sun 1-3:55-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:50-9:50 **Fifty Shades Darker** Fri 1:30-4:25-7:20-10:20 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:30-10:25 Sun 1:30-4:25-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:10 **Fist Fight** Fri 12:55-3:15-5:30-7:45-10:05 Sat 7:40-10:10 Sun 1:05-3:15-5:30-7:45-10:05 Mon 3:30-7:15-9:40 Tue-Thu 4:40-7:15-9:40 **The Great Wall** 3D Thu 6:40-9:25; IMAX Fri 1:50-4:45-7:40-10:20 Sat 12:10-2:50-5:30-8-10:35 Sun 1:55-4:45-7:40-10:20 Mon 4:40-7:40-10:15 Tue-Wed 4:50-7:40-10:15 Thu 3:45 **Hidden Figures** Fri 12:30-3:25-6:30-9:30 Sat 12:20-6:30-9:30 Sun 3:25-6:30-9:30 Mon 3:30-6:30 Tue-Wed 3:30-6:30-9:30 Thu 3:30-6:30-9:35 **John Wick: Chapter 2** Fri 1:10-4:05-7-10 Sat 1-4-7-10 Sun 1:10-4:05-7-10 Mon-Wed 4:10-7:10-10:10 Thu 4:10-7:10-10:20 **La La Land** Fri 12:35-3:35-6:40-9:45 Sat 12:40-3:45-6:50-9:50 Sun 12:35-3:35-6:40-9:45 Mon 4-7-9:30 Tue-Thu 4-7-10 **LEGO Batman Movie** Fri 4:35 Sat 5:10 Sun 4:35 Mon-Thu 4:30; 3D Fri 1:40-7:30-10:10 Sat 12-2:35-7:50-10:30 Sun 1:40-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:30-10:05 **Logan** IMAX Thu 7:15-10:30 **The Salesman** Fri 1:20-4:15-7:10-10:15 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:05 Sun 1:20-4:15-7:10-10:15 Mon-Wed 3:35-6:40-9:35 Thu 3:40-6:30-9:25 **Sharkwater** Sat 4:35

SilverCity Yorkdale 6, 3401 Dufferin St.
A Cure for Wellness Fri-Sat 7-10:15 Sun 7 Mon-Thu 6:50-10:05 **A Dog's Purpose** Fri 1:45-4:20 Sat 11:15-1:45-4:20 Sun 1:45-4:20 Mon-Thu 1:20-4 **Fifty Shades Darker** Fri-Sat 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:30 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:40 Mon-Wed 1:10-4:10-7:10-10 Thu 4:10-7:10-10 Thu 1:10 **Fist Fight** Fri 12:30-2:50-5:20-8-10:20 Sat 12:30-2:50-5:30-8-10:25 Sun 12:30-2:50-5:20-8 Mon-Wed 2:10-5-7:50-10:15 Thu 1:30 Thu 5-7:50-10:15 **Get Out** Fri 12-2:30-5:10-7:50-10:30 Sat 11:45-2:30-5:10-7:50-10:30 Sun 12-2:30-5:10-7:50 Mon-Thu 2-4:50-7:40-10:15 **The Great Wall** Fri-Sun 4:40 Mon-Thu 4:30; 3D Fri-Sat 2-7:20-10 Sun 2-7:20 Mon-Thu 1:50-7-9:40 **Hidden Figures** Fri-Sun 12:15-3:40 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:40 **John Wick: Chapter 2** Fri-Sat 12:45-3:50-6:40-9:40 Sun 12:45-3:50-6:40 Mon-Wed 1-3:50-6:40-9:50 Thu 1:40-4:40-7:30-10:20 Fri-Sat 7:30-10:20 Sun 7:30 Mon-Wed 7:30-10:20 **LEGO Batman Movie** Fri 11:45-2:10-4:50 Sat 11:30-2:10-4:50 Sun 11:45-2:10-4:50 Mon-Wed 1:40-4:40 Thu 1:30-4:20; 3D Fri 1-4-6:45-9:20 Sat 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:35 Sun 1-4-6:45 Mon-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:15 **Logan** Thu 7-10:15 **Rings** Fri-Sat 6:50-9:30 Sun 6:50 Mon-Wed 7-9:30 Thu 7:30-10 **Split** Fri 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:10 Sat 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:05 Sun 1:15-4:10-7:10 Mon-Wed 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:10 Thu 1-3:50-7:20-10:10 **TMNT: Out of the Shadows** Sat 11

Silvercity Fairview, 1800 Sheppard Ave.
A Cure for Wellness Fri 7-10:20 Sat 6:30-9:45 Sun-Thu 7-10:20 **A Dog's Purpose** Fri 1:50-4:15 Sat 11-4:10 Sun-Tue 1:50-4:15 Wed 4:15 Thu 1:50-4:15 **Fifty Shades Darker** Fri 1:40-4:30 Sat 1:10-4 Sun-Wed 1:40-4:30 Thu 1:40-4:30-7:40-10:30 Fri-Wed 7:40-10:30 **Fist Fight** Fri 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Sat 11:05-1:15-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Sun 3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 **Get Out** Fri-Sun 2-5:10-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:30-5:10-7:50-10:30 **The Great Wall** Fri 4:45 Sat 11:30-2-4:35 Sun-Thu 4:45; 3D Fri 2:10-7:20-10 Sat 7:20-10 Sun-Thu 2:10-7:20-10 **John Wick: Chapter 2** Fri 1:45-4:30-7:15-10:15 Sat 1:40-4:50-7:35-10:20 Sun-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:15-10:15 **La La Land** Fri 1:05-3:40-6:45-9:45 Sat 6:45-9:55 Sun-Tue 1:05-3:40-6:45-9:45 Wed 1:05-3:40-6:50-9:45 Thu 1:05-3:40-6:45-9:45 **The LEGO Batman Movie** Fri 2:25-5 Sat 11-1:30 Sun 1 Thu 1-3:35 Sat 11:45-2:25-5 Sun-Wed 2:25-5; 3D Fri 7:30-10:10 Sat 7-9:40 Sun-Thu 7:30-10:10 **Logan** Thu 7:15-10:30 **Sailor Moon R: The Movie** Wed 7 **Split** Fri 1-4-6:50-9:50 Sat 7:10-9:55 Sun-Tue 1-4-6:50-9:50 Wed 4-9:50 Thu 1-4 **TMNT: Out of the Shadows** Sat 11

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metro TRAVEL

Your essential daily news

Fans crowdfunding $1.25M for lighting bolt sculpture to commorate David Bowie in London

Met offers exercise amid art

PERFORMANCE

MetLiveArts hosting classes three years in the making

New York City's cavernous Metropolitan Museum of Art has been holding lively morning workout sessions this winter amid its prized masterpieces.

The 45-minute Museum Workout sends people in exercise attire chugging through 35 galleries, past paintings, sculptures, armour and other treasures, before the venerable Fifth Avenue institution opens to the public.

On a recent morning, an overnight snowstorm didn't deter the 15 people who'd signed up for the session.

It started with a warmup: calf stretches in the museum's grand limestone entrance and an easy jog out to the Bee Gees' hit Stayin' Alive. Then came the speedy trek through the galleries and up the preserved ornate staircase of the 19th century Chicago stock exchange.

There were squats in front of John Singer Sargent's Portrait of Madame X, balancing on one leg before Henry VIII's rigid armour, a yoga pose before a bronze nude of the Roman hunting goddess Diana, and jumping jacks in-between, all to a soundtrack of disco and Motown hits.

Why bother travelling to a Manhattan museum — some did, from Pennsylvania, Kentucky and even California — just to exercise?

An exercise group lies in a yoga post at the feet of a bronze statue of Diana, Roman goddess of the hunt. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"This offers you amazing moments," said participant Oliver Ryan, who runs a New York corporate wellness company. "We did our first stretch, and there in the vast gallery was Perseus holding the head of Medusa. What hit me was this was the TV of ancient times, a frozen moment from a story everyone knew."

The Met commissioned the innovative Monica Bill Barnes Dance Company for the project. It was choreographed by the two women leading the workout — Monica Bill Barnes herself and her dance partner, Anna Bass — along with Robert Saenz de Viteri, the company's creative producing director.

Bass said the team worked "obsessively" calculating how to keep a safe distance from the artworks. That means no wild swinging of arms or legs, and exercising a minimum of three feet or so from any treasure.

Leading scantily clad, pumped up bodies around the artworks "really runs against the culture of being in a museum, being quiet and being still and walking slowly," said Barnes.

"We're in the business of making strange things," she added with a wry smile, "bringing dance where it doesn't belong."

De Viteri helped guide the workout session in a vintage tuxedo and sneakers, holding a laptop attached to a speaker that channeled music and recorded narration by artist and author Maira Kalman, who selected the art and gallery route.

"Something very physical happens to me when I'm in a museum. I get this rush of excitement, this kind of tingle of mad, passionate arousal," Kalman's recorded voice said as the group did side-stretches in front of a stern-looking bust of Benjamin Franklin.

The workout ends with everyone lying on their back, eyes closed, on the floor of the Met's luminous American wing. This yoga pose, called savasana, is meant to release tension from mind and body while absorbing the benefits of the dynamic exercises. Rising over the human stillness is Augustus Saint-Gaudens' ancient goddess — the resplendent, gilded Diana, about to release her arrow.

The first sessions, from Jan. 19 through Feb. 12, were sold out months ago. The interest was so intense that more were added, through March 9, and they're also sold out. Participants, both men and women, have ranged in age from 13 to 85.

Museum officials say there are no immediate plans for a future staging of what is essentially a "performance piece" that took three years to create, with each participant movement matching music and visuals moment by moment.

The Museum Workout was commissioned by the museum's MetLiveArts performance series and partly funded by the Jerome Robbins Foundation and One World Fund.

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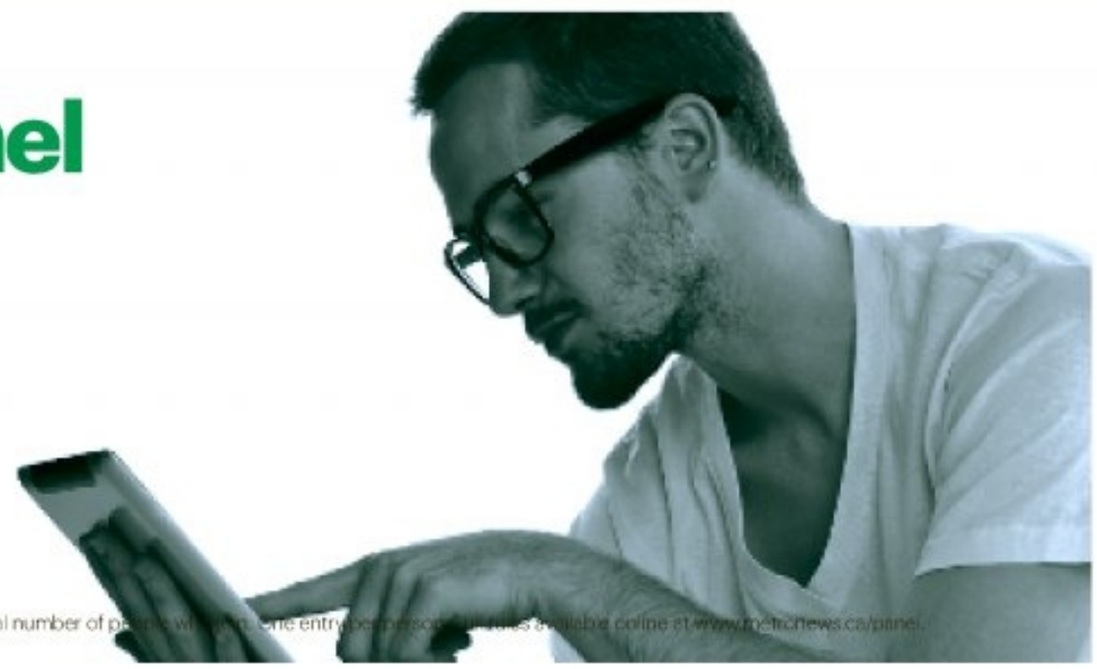

*No purchase necessary. Entry period is Monday, February 6, until Friday, March 31, 2017 at 11:59 pm. Odds of winning depend on total number of p[illegible] entry p[illegible] available online at www.metronews.ca/panel.

metro SPORTS

The 168 MLB players eligible for arbitration averaged a 113 per cent raise with Wil Myers landing the biggest pay increase ($523,900-$13.8 million)

IN BRIEF

QB pioneer Custis passes
Bernie Custis, pro football's first black quarterback who blazed the trail for future stars like Warren Moon, Chuck Ealey and Damon Allen, has died.

He was 88.

Custis made pro football history Aug. 29, 1951, when he became a starter with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, who confirmed his death Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bernie Custis TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Northern Ontario clings to playoff hope at Scotties
Northern Ontario's Krista McCarville beat the defending champions at the Canadian women's curling championship Thursday to stay in the hunt for playoffs.

McCarville downed the Chelsey Carey team from Calgary 8-4 as Northern Ontario improved to 6-3 with two games remaining in the round robin.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Foxes fire manager Ranieri
Claudio Ranieri was fired as the manager of Leicester on Thursday, nine months after guiding the club to the most improbable title triumph in Premier League history.

Leicester is a point above the relegation zone after 25 games of a woeful title defence.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Next-level thinking

Bruce Arthur

Facing last call at this year's NBA bar, Masai Ujiri had to make a choice. It's helpful to think of it as a Goldilocks situation, really. Doing nothing: was that too cool? The Toronto Raptors had already acquired Serge Ibaka, a premier power forward. They had one last hole to fill, but they could have stayed cool.

What about going bigger and getting a wing player that came with salary beyond this season, that required trading more pieces and a bigger bet? Well, that could have happened, sure. There were discussions. Wilson Chandler, say, from Denver. It would have been much closer to going all-in with LeBron James still in his prime, and with less of a safety net. Too hot.

For a few years, Ujiri has tried to have it both ways. Built around a core of Kyle Lowry and DeMar DeRozan, the Raptors won 48 games, 49 games, 56 games. They won two playoff series, though by the skin of their knuckles. They stood next to LeBron in the playoffs. Not bad at all.

Meanwhile, Ujiri tried to build a parallel architecture. Norm Powell, Lucas (Bebe) Nogueira, Bruno Caboclo — look, not every egg hatches — Delon Wright, Jakob Poeltl, Fred VanVleet. A team, and a shadow team. Assets, and future assets. It's hard to win and develop at the same time,

Masai Ujiri's Raptors are looking to reach new heights after a bold trade deadline. TOM SZCZERBOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

and the Raptors have had some success in both camps. Of the calls they fielded Thursday, the vast majority were about Powell, Bebe and Wright.

The newest Raptors P.J. Tucker, left, and Serge Ibaka. GETTY IMAGES

"They trade me yet? No? If they do, make sure they get a lot of picks, because I think I deserve them," said Nogueira, ducking his head into the media room before the deadline.

And when the trade deadline came, Ujiri tried to find something that was just right. He needed a wing, but he could wait. He had a first-round pick he wanted to keep. The Raptors talked to Denver, talked to a pile of teams.

In the final minutes before the deadline, Phoenix called and accepted the offer: two second-round picks and Jared Sullinger's expiring salary for small forward P.J. Tucker.

Tucker is 31. He can defend multiple positions, he can play sandpaper basketball, he can play physical basketball, and he can shoot some. He's one of those guys who knows how to foul on every play without getting caught. Tucker's strong enough to bang with LeBron and will be a designated wing stopper. Combining him with Patterson and Ibaka up front gives coach Dwane Casey a front line full of defenders who can surround Lowry and DeRozan, and shoot. Nice idea.

So, these are the Raptors. They have all the pieces you could reasonably ask for, still have a first-round pick next year, and their youngsters. Pretty good week's work.

"Everything always looks pretty on paper. Now we have to go out and play, and execute," said Ujiri. "I think we needed it. I think this team ... deserved this chance to see, you know?"

"I think we had to consider that. Considering the players we have now, maybe where we found ourselves last year. It's important that we — hey, let's do it till we fail. This team, the coaches, the players, the fans the organization — I think they deserve it, you know? And you know what, if we gave it our best shot, we gave it our best shot. In the East, there's Cleveland at the top, and then there's five, six, seven teams that could catch steam at any time. Whoever does at the right time, maybe you find yourselves there. We want to give ourselves the best shot to be there."

Bruce Arthur is a columnist with the Toronto Star

Henrik Lundqvist made 32 saves in Thursday night's win. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NHL

Buds fail to cool Rangers

THURSDAY At ACC

2	1
RANGERS	LEAFS

Mika Zibanejad scored the shootout winner as the New York Rangers continued a scorching February with a 2-1 victory over the Toronto Maple Leafs on Thursday night.

Henrik Lundqvist made 32 saves and J.T. Miller scored the game-tying goal in the third period for the Rangers, who improved to 8-1-1 this month.

New York (39-19-2) moved into third place in the Metropolitan Division, now with 80 points.

Connor Brown scored the lone goal for Toronto (28-20-11), which fell to 1-7 in shootouts this season. Frederik Andersen had a stellar performance in defeat with 37 stops.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Wolfpack ready for competitive debut
The challenge begins for real Saturday for the Toronto Wolfpack.

The trail-blazing transatlantic rugby league club plays its first competitive match, taking on Siddal in the third round of the knockout Ladbrokes Challenge Cup.

Toronto opens league play on March 4 at the London Skolars in the Kingstone Press League 1, the third tier of English rugby. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Syrian youth find comfort in sports

REFUGEES

Activities help ease pain of displacement

Syrian refugee girls play basketball in Beirut, Lebanon.
HUSSEIN MALLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Every Sunday, the gymnasium along Beirut's airport highway echoes with the shouting and laughter of dozens of Syrian children enjoying a rare escape from a grim and confined life in exile.

The Sport 4 Development program, run by the UN children's agency, aims to bring 12,000 children, mostly Syrian refugees, to blacktops and turf pitches this year to teach the basics of soccer and basketball, and to ease the pain of war and displacement.

"We try to get them out of their stressful environments and the frights that they've lived through," said Maher Nakib, 40, the technical director of Hoops Lebanon, the sports association behind the project.

Of the one million Syrian refugees the UN says are living in Lebanon, more than half are under 18 years old. Syrians here face legal and other forms of discrimination, and many parents are hesitant to let their children play outside.

The month-long Hoops program provides a safe environment where the children can blow off steam, as well as learn self-confidence and teamwork.

"They come back home and they're too tired to fight," smiles Fatima Tayjan, a refugee from the Syrian city of Aleppo who has enrolled three of her four children in the program. When her family of six returns home to their crowded two-bedroom apartment, the children have "released all their energy and they are ready to talk to each other," she said.

Maram al-Malwa, a 17-year-old paid volunteer who came up in the program, recalls her own feelings of isolation when she and her family fled from Aleppo to Lebanon five years ago. "It was a new country, even a new accent," she said.

But now she is irrepressible, rising on the balls of her feet when she speaks and helping coaches reach through to children in the group activities. She is one of a handful of the children pulled aside for a six-month mentorship on leadership and coaching.

> **You immediately see them change when they're here**
> Maram al-Malwa, volunteer

"You grow, you experience victories, setbacks, you learn to fight for yourself, and you become more confident," she said.

Staffers are trained to identify struggling children, those who lash out and those who retreat into their shells. Psychologists meet with parents weekly to discuss healthy relationships and domestic violence.

The group sessions often bring to light domestic disputes, learning disabilities or experiences of sexual violence. The children are then referred to specialized non-governmental organizations for further support.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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McPeak on a solo mission

BASKETBALL

Raps 905 game caller is only female behind mic in D-League

Game nights at Humber College were always a bit nuts for Meghan McPeak.

She'd suit up as the starting point guard for the Humber Hawks women's basketball team, and then it was a mad dash of showering, changing and the inevitable sprint across the gym to slide into her seat on press row to work the men's game. She'd slip on her headset with a mere minute or two to spare.

McPeak was enrolled in Humber's radio broadcasting program. Her coach Denise Perrier, supportive of McPeak's budding broadcast career, was kind enough to deliver a swift, down and dirty post-game speech. "It was pretty quick," McPeak said of her wardrobe change.

Meghan McPeak THE CANADIAN PRESS

Those hectic nights paid off. The 29-year-old McPeak is in her second season as the voice of Raptors 905, the D-League affiliate of the Toronto Raptors. According to the NBA, she is the only female play-by-play announcer in the D-League. There are none in the NBA, and just one — ESPN's Pam Ward — in the WNBA.

McPeak grew up playing rep basketball in Hamilton and pick-up basketball with her older brother Matt. She'd settle in on Sundays to watch football with her dad. When she began driving, the voices of Paul Jones and Chuck Swirsky calling Raptors games provided the soundtrack.

Former longtime Humber athletic director Doug Fox steered McPeak toward broadcasting "based on the fact that I don't stop talking," McPeak said, with a laugh. "It was probably the best decision someone else has ever made for me."

McPeak also works as a radio host for Raptors pre-game, halftime and post-game shows on TSN 1050, and has been an occasional guest analyst on NBATV Canada's The Hangout along with Bell TV's Open Gym: Fast Break. She doesn't see herself as a trailblazer. Instead she credits the women who've paved a path before her.

"At some point there was someone else in front of me that had to do it for me to even be in this position," McPeak said.

"So I tend to look to the Doris Burkes of the world, who, although she does colour commentary (on the NBA for ABC and ESPN), she still had to be a trailblazer in order for women to be taken seriously in a male-dominated position within the broadcast." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Creamy Broccoli and Cheese Soup

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

A generous serving of cheddar gives this vegetarian soup a satisfying creaminess.

Ready in 35 minutes
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 4 cups broccoli florets and stem (cut off tough ends) chopped fairly small
- 1 onion chopped
- 2 cups chopped, peeled potato
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 glug olive oil
- 4 cups stock (vegetable or chicken, low sodium)
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 cup grated cheddar
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Sauté onion and garlic in a Dutch oven or other large, heavy-bottomed pot for about 5 minutes until soft.

2. Add vegetables and stock and allow to simmer for about 20 minutes until the vegetables are tender.

3. In small batches, ladle the broth and vegetables into your blender and purée. Pour each batch into a bowl as you go. Pour the puree back into your pot.

4. Over medium heat add milk and cheese and stir until the cheese melts. Add salt and pepper to taste.

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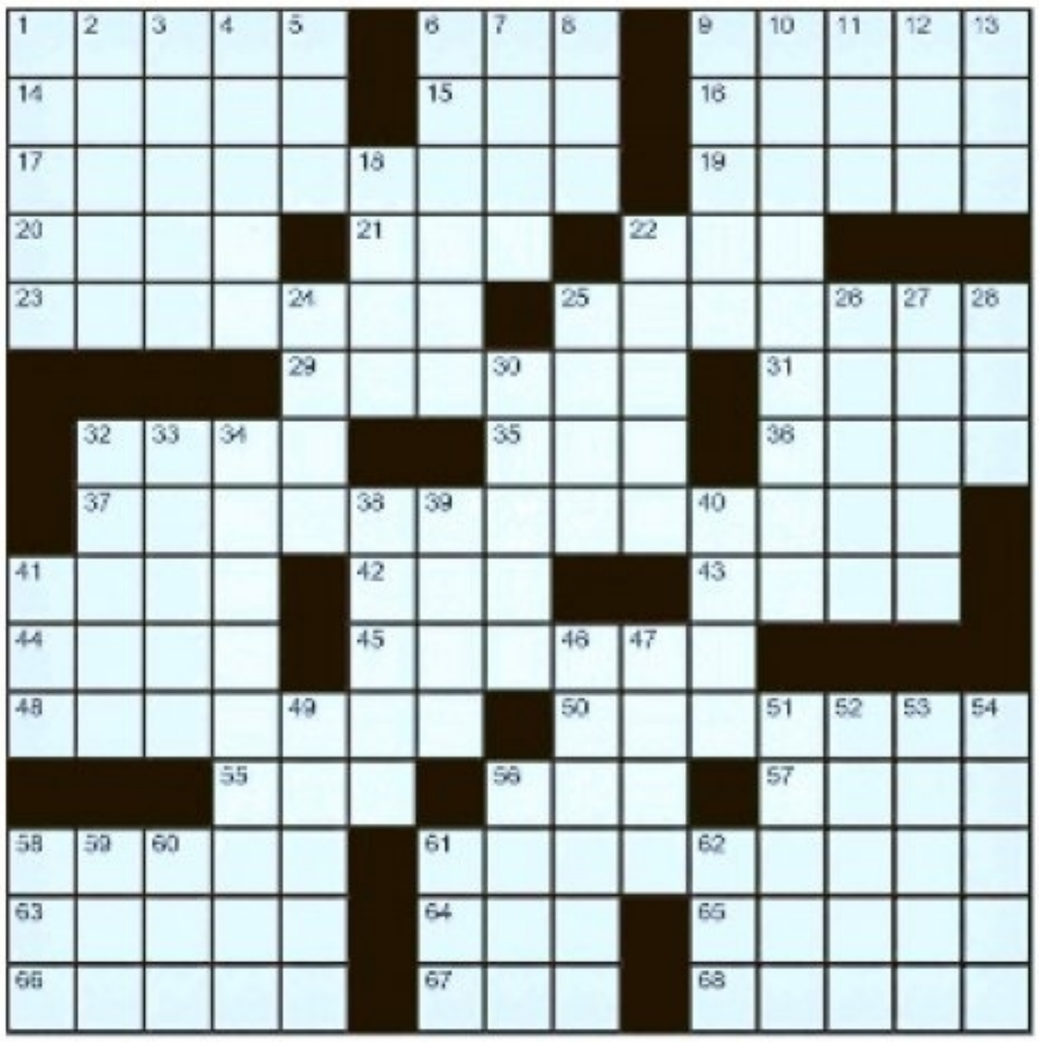
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Analyze
6. Sit-ups targets
9. Prepare mentally
14. '-Z' Camaro models
15. Six: Italian
16. Writer Charles' bookish surname
17. Oscars 2017! Canadian nominee in the 'Short Film (Animated)' category, "__ and Cigarettes" (2016)
19. Comic strip, Li'l __
20. "..__ __ tete, Alouette..."
21. Movie __
22. Dietary letters
23. Certain conifer: 2 wds.
25. Oscars 2017! Shine on the red carpet: 3 wds.
29. Appears, like an online ad: 2 wds.
31. Tick __..
32. Gov. agents
35. Three: Italian
36. Obi accessory
37. Oscars 2017! In Sci-Fi flick "Arrival" (2016), Amy Adams' character, a linguistics professor, translates it: 2 wds.
41. Lines giver
42. Standard stat.
43. Genetic messengers, commonly
44. Twice's half
45. Conforming, __ the line
48. Oscars 2017! Do this to experience the show from home: 2 wds.
50. Regina-born actor Leslie
55. Mattel product
56. Oscars 2017! __., Feb. 26th
57. Virginia willow
58. Oscars 2017! Be part of the movie's cast: 2 wds.
61. Oscars 2017! Gala party catered by Wolfgang Puck, __ Ball
63. Ring up
64. Yalie
65. Hair dye brand
66. Like lemons
67. Albanian currency
68. Genuflect

DOWN
1. Oscars 2017! Canadian filmmaker Alan Barillaro's nominated work in the category at #17-Across
2. Mountain ridge
3. Writer Mr. Dahl
4. Combat
5. Keyboard key
6. Comparably downwardly-dug: 2 wd.
7. Red veggie
8. Formally fine fellow
9. Oscars 2017! Red carpet designer name
10. Oscars 2017! Ryan Gosling's Oscar-nominated role in "La La Land" (2016)
11. PBS chef Martin
12. Alphabetic trio
13. HRH part
18. Money Object link: 2 wds.
22. Fasten anew
24. __ dixit (Unproven claim)
25. Singe
26. Friendly Islands
27. Land units
28. Old Hollywood studio
30. Oscars 2017! Host Jimmy Kimmel's platform
32. Flora's friend?
33. Vote in
34. Oscars 2017! Category in which Canadian filmmaker Denis Villeneuve is nominated for "Arrival" (2016)
38. Dapper
39. Ukraine city, to Russians
40. Encourage
41. Moo-er
46. Northwest Territories town
47. Three squared
49. Tea sweetener
51. __ closet
52. Stock
53. Spooky
54. Rhinal
56. Exclusive
58. Fitting
59. Steeped beverage
60. Big load, States-style
61. Congeal
62. 1960s Pres. sibling

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a marvelous day to schmooze with others. Enjoy the company of friends, and in particular, enjoy the company of groups. People are warmhearted today.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You look good to others today. In part, people see that you are ready to show your affection for others, and they like this. (Of course they do — everyone wants to be loved and appreciated.)

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Travel for pleasure will appeal to you today. This also is a good day to mingle with people from different backgrounds and other cultures.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
It will be easy to take part in discussions about inheritances and shared property today, because people are in a good mood. In addition, they feel cooperative and generous. (That's all you need.)

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Relations with others are very positive today. Entertain at home. Don't hesitate to let others know how much you care for them.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is a good day at work because coworkers are supportive. You also might see ways to make your workspace look and feel more attractive.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a great day for a date or any kind of social outing. Enjoy sports events and playful activities with children. Whatever interactions you have today will be warm and rewarding.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Entertain at home today. Invite the gang over for good food and drink! Discussions with female family members will be positive and warm.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
All your communications with others today will be upbeat and affectionate. This is a strong day for writers and salespeople, as well as those of you who teach or act.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You can boost your income today, because this is a financially favorable day. If shopping, you will want to buy beautiful things for yourself and loved ones.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a positive, feel-good day because the Moon is in your sign, dancing nicely with Venus. Enjoy schmoozing with others.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Work alone or behind the scenes today, because you feel content and happy with the world. You want to take some time just for you, and why not? Find a comfy place and enjoy your favorite drink.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		5	7		2		8	
					1	3		2
2				4			1	
6							7	8
		7				1		
5	4							6
	2			1				7
4		1	8					
	3		4		6	9		

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KENNETH TURAN, Los Angeles Times

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